

REMARKS

Claims 3, 5-29, 32, 34-59, 61, and 62 are pending, in which claims 1, 2, 4, 30, 31, 33, and 60 were previously canceled, and claims 3, 18, 32, 47 and 61 are currently amended.

The final Office Action mailed May 5, 2004 rejected claims 3, 5-7, 10-21, 25, 26, 29, and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by *Alles et al.* (US 6,499,976), claims 8, 22, 24, 27, and 28 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on *Alles et al.* in view of *Dillon et al.* (US 6,519,651), claims 61 and 62 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on *Alles et al.* in view of *Dillon et al.* in view of *Milton et al.* (US 6,721,333), claim 23 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on *Alles et al.* in view of *Dillon et al.* in view of *Jorgensen* (US 6,590,885), and claim 9 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on *Alles et al.* in view of *Klaus* (US 5,892,903).

To advance prosecution, Applicants have amended independent claims 3, 32 and 61. Independent claim 3, as amended, recites "**a spoofing element configured to intercept and alter a data flow within one of the connections to add to or delete from the data flow to reduce startup latency**", the spoofing element only spoofing connections of the first type associated with at least one of applications with high throughput and applications for which reduced startup latency is desired." Amended independent claim 32 recites "**intercepting and altering a data flow within the connections to add to or delete from the data flow to reduce startup latency**." Independent claim 61 now recites "**encrypting and compressing** data streams

associated with the priority connections based on a transmission constraint of the backbone connection."

Applicants respectfully submit that the arguments proffered in the previous Response to the final Office Action remain pertinent, and accordingly, request withdrawal of the various rejections under §§ 102 and 103.

Further, Applicants note that the Examiner's extrapolation of *Alles'* disclosure of "discarding packets intended to a client" as a teaching of "spoofing" is misguided (Advisory Action, page 2). As pointed out in Applicants' prior response, the claim language of "spoof" has context in the networking sense; see e.g., Specification, page 4, lines 7-11, and page 13, lines 15-31. Further, Newton's Telecom Dictionary (16th Edition) defines spoofing as follows: "3. A networking term. Spoofing is a method by which a receiving device is spoofed, or fooled, into thinking that data are being transmitted in order that the device doesn't 'time out' the data session." One of ordinary skill in the art would not understand a mere disclosure of "discarding packets" as "spoofing," albeit spoofing can be implemented, in part, by discarding packets. Although the Examiner is entitled to give claim language its broadest reasonable interpretation, this license does not extend to reading the references as broadly.

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 425-8508 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



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